

# Governor's Drought Advisory Committee

## Staff Report

October 15, 2008

Helena, Montana

# Committee Refocus Initiative 2008

- Governor Schweitzer requested the Drought Advisory Committee examine and update the scope of its work.
- Objective – To conduct a review of how the Committee serves Montanans
- Plan – Invite comment from constituents on how the Committee could be more effective.

# Process Methodology

- Three facilitated discussions were held
- Over 100 comments were received
- CDs, Extension agents, producers
- Comments were grouped by subject
- Participants ranked ideas / comments
- Recommendations made
- Work Plan was developed



# Initiative Recommendations

- The Committee should communicate its needs and concerns early each year to the Congressional delegation.
- The Committee should work to foster better relationships with county commissions, FSA committees, and local drought committees, watershed groups.
- Educate with special presentations on drought-related topics of concern.

# Initiative Recommendations

- Map product summarizing drought conditions by county should appear on television and in newspapers of the state.
- Find alternatives to travel for Committee reporters such as GoToMeeting, state conference call network.
- Continue to improve outreach & access to constituents using networks & web site.



# Reclamation Emergency Drought Program 2007-2008 Projects

- Sun River Watershed Group – Real-time streamflow gauging to implement drought planning
- Fort Shaw and Greenfields Irrigation Districts water management
- South Fk. USGS real-time gauge \$38,000



# Gibson Reservoir – South Fk. Sun





# North Fk. Sun River Gauge location





# West Boulder Diversion - \$10K





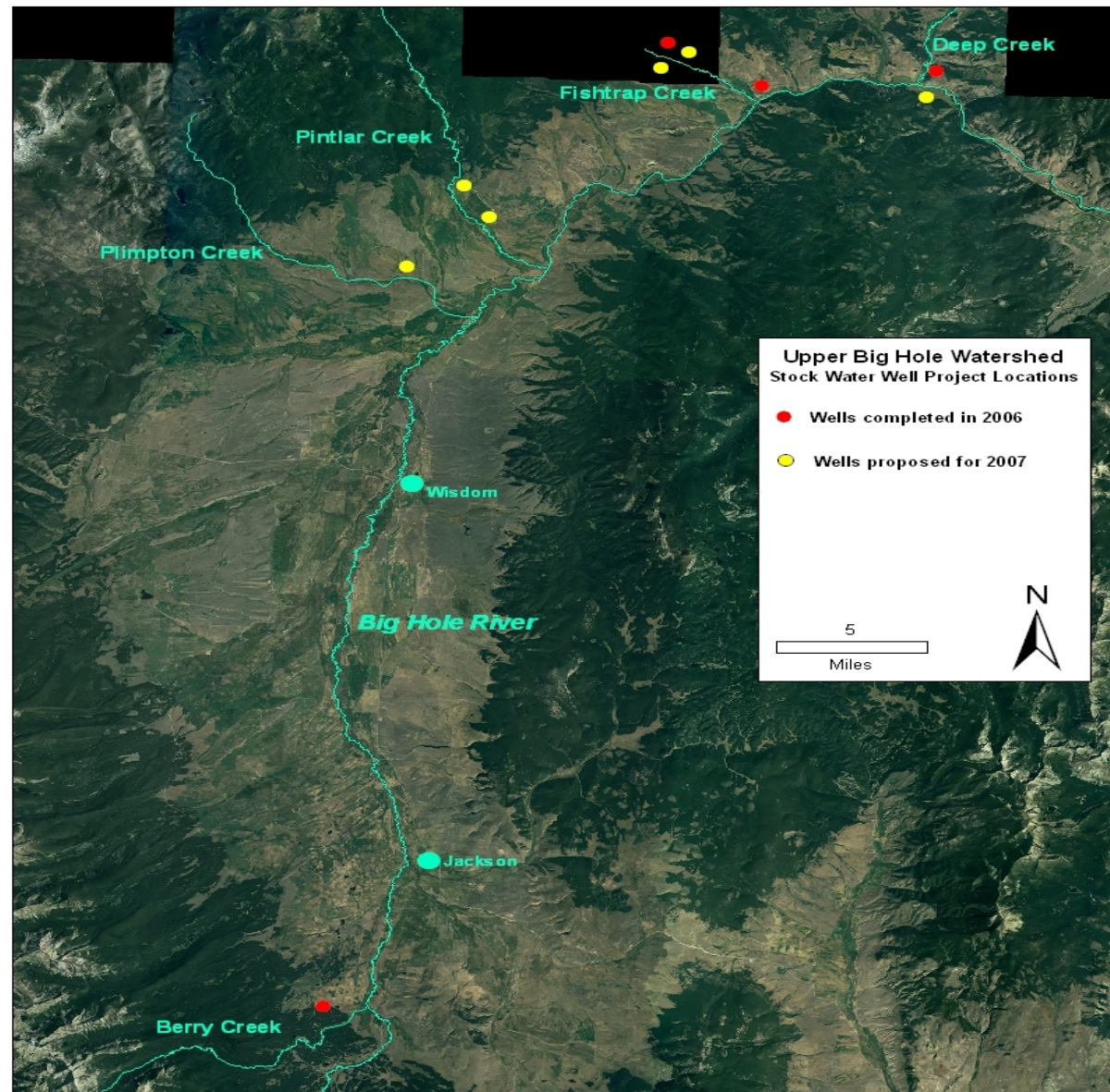
# Lower Big Hole Flume, Gate, Ladder \$8K DNRC, CD, TU, Landowner





# Big Hole Stock Water Wells

## 2006-2007 \$55K





# Big Hole – Maiden Rock Gauge \$12K





# Jefferson Drought Plan – 2 gauges Beaverhead and Ruby \$20K





# Upper Big Hole CCAA Gauging Network

4 USGS real-time sector gauges - \$49K





# Project proposals pending

- Musselshell River Drought System \$107K
- Yellowstone Mill Creek Drought Plan \$30K
- Cree Crossing USGS Gauge \$7K

The End





